

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 26

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Weldon Trevethan for his service to the children of Youth Town.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to recognize those individuals who give of themselves to the youth of this State without thought to or expectation of what they might receive in return; and

WHEREAS, Weldon Trevethan is one such estimable individual who, through his work with the residents of Youth Town, has brought hope to countless teens and adolescents in dire need of compassion and guidance; and

WHEREAS, before he ever moved to Tennessee, Mr. Trevethan lived in Washington, D.C. and Reading, Pennsylvania, and worked under three presidential administrations on employment for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the governmental work he performed on behalf of the disabled, Mr. Trevethan also served as the President of Goodwill Industries; his father was a founding Board Member of that esteemed organization, which has provided education, training, and jobs for the impoverished and disabled for over one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, four years ago, Mr. Trevethan began working with Youth Town through a foster grandparent program administered by the Southwest Human Resource Agency; and

WHEREAS, at the Youth Town Christian Residential Treatment Center, located ten miles outside of Jackson, a dedicated staff of professionals has been working with troubled youth and their families since it was first chartered by the State of Tennessee in 1962; and

WHEREAS, most mornings, Mr. Trevethan, or “Mr. T” as he is affectionately known, can be found taking breakfast in the cafeteria with Youth Town’s residents; his approach to helping is characterized by this kind of close, personal interaction, which suggests the deep respect he

holds for the young people who have come to Youth Town for help with behavioral problems and substance abuse issues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Trevethan and his wife Cecilia moved to Pinson to be closer to Mrs. Trevethan's family but sadly, she passed away; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Trevethan was a talented artist, and many of her sculptures can be found in Washington, D. C. art galleries; she also crafted the inaugural wreath for President Richard Nixon; and

WHEREAS, much like his wife, Weldon Trevethan loves to work with his hands, and he believes that much of the best rehabilitation takes place at the work bench, where one can often find him with one or more of Youth Town's residents; and

WHEREAS, he has also worked with many of the residents on art projects, and some of those pieces have been placed on display at the Carnegie Center, Freed-Hardeman University, and Jackson City Hall; and

WHEREAS, by demonstrating love through creativity and good works, Mr. Trevethan shows his young charges that, despite any adversity, right action can make for good living; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Trevethan stands as an excellent example of the examined life well lived, not only to the young people of Youth Town but to all the people of Tennessee as well; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and recognize Weldon Trevethan for his caring service to the youth of this State and the great nation of which it is a part, thank him for giving of himself so freely to those who need help so badly, and wish him every success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.